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A PUBLICATION FROM THE BONNEVILLE POWER AD

Journ

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BPA exceeds green power sales target

A recent power sale to a California energy service provider helped BPA exceed its fiscal year 1999 target of 30 megawatts of green power sales. Commonwealth Energy Corporation, based in Tustin, California, has signed a 12-month power purchase agreement with BPA for 30 megawatts of clean, renewable hydropower. The power comes from BPA's hydroelectric projects that have a capacity of less than 30 megawatts, which qualifies them as clean, renewable resources under California's restructuring legislation. Commonwealth is paying BPA a premium under the agreement. That premium means the Commonwealth sale counts towards BPA's fiscal year 1999 target of 30 megawatts of green power.

sales, bringing the total number of green power megawatts BPA sold in fiscal year 1999 to 41 average megawatts. Commonwealth will use the power to serve its large commercial customers.

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Department of Energy Secretary Richardson plans to visit BPA

Department of Energy Secretary Bill Richardson is expected to be at BPA on Sept. 9 for the North American Electric Reliability Council's and Department of Energy's Y2K drills. The goal of the Sept. 8-9, 1999, Y2K drills is to provide the bulk electric power systems of North America an opportunity to exercise their contingency response plans for the transition into the Year 2000. BPA expects that the power system will operate safely and reliably on Jan. 1, 2000. BPA has developed contingency plans as a back-up system. BPA's Sept. 9 drill will simulate possible Y2K-related problems and exercise the contingency plans. The North American Electric Reliability Council, consisting of ten regional reliability councils encompassing the power systems in the United States and Canada, promotes reliable and adequate supplies of bulk electric power. The Department of Energy asked the North American Electric Reliability Council to coordinate Y2K efforts so that the electricity power production and delivery systems in the United States maintain a reliable supply of electricity during the Year 2000 transition.

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Bonneville Environmental Foundation awards three grants

Three communities will benefit from the first grants from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation. Funding for the grants comes from premiums on sales of environmentally preferred BPA power and from other donors.

- Mohawk Watershed Partnership, in Oregon's McKenzie River Basin, received \$23,850 for a watershed biological assessment to provide the scientific foundation for restoration activities. Emerald People's Utility District serves the area.
- Sea Resources Inc. in Chinook, Wash., received an initial grant of \$5,000 to involve landowners in salmon habitat restoration activities in the Chinook River valley at the mouth of the Columbia River.
- The city of Ashland, Ore., received a grant to help deploy solar photovoltaic power units on homes, businesses and community facilities. The Bonneville Environmental Foundation will provide between \$25,000 and \$62,500 on a 1:2 match basis. Ashland is committing \$50,000 to \$125,000 to the project.

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Fiber optics symposium planned in September

BPA will host a symposium, *Communication is at Hand: Fiber Optics for Northwest Communities*, in Spokane, Wash., from Sept. 21 through 23. The symposium will focus on acquiring a fiber optics system, adapting to changing needs of residents and businesses once the system is in place, installing and maintaining overhead and underground systems, identifying the vendors and sources for fiber optics and telecommunications devices, and finding the new markets for telecommunications. BPA is working with utilities, economic development groups and communities in rural areas throughout the Northwest to

bring the information highway to small towns throughout the region. For more information and to register, visit the [conference Web site](#).

Scheduled speakers include Bob Rowe, Montana public utility commissioner; Terry Edvalson, director of Regional Services Institute, Eastern Oregon University; Matthew Lampe, director of strategic planning, city of Seattle; Steve Johnson, Light Brigade; Andrew Logue, Nortel; Robb Kopp, fiber marketer, Power Engineers; Jeff Ritter, Oregon Economic Development Department; Jim Lowrey, Washington State Rural Development Council; Mark Lundgren, Corning; Amery Brooks, Alcoa; Paul Daniels, Performed Line Products; Steve Johnson, president, Washington PUD Association; Bryan Haux, Lucent; Ben Doty, telecommunications manager, Central Lincoln PUD/Coast Net; Jennifer Smith, Klickitat Project; Cindy Weeldreyer, Lane County commissioner, Lane County Ore; Todd Hirsch, executive director for product marketing, Advanced Radio Telecom; Douglas Haffer, CEO, World Wireless; Barry Stringfellow, "Bandwidth to Home," New Zealand, and Robert French, Hybrid Networks.

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BPA plans to join Nevada transmission group

BPA plans to join Nevada utilities and power marketers who are setting up an independent scheduling administrator for power transmission in that state. The Mountain West ISA will schedule transmission throughout the state. BPA serves two publicly owned utilities — Wells Rural Electric and Harney Electric Co-op — through general transfer agreements with Nevada utilities. Participating in the ISA will protect the transfer agreements and give BPA experience in an organization that could precede development of a regional transmission organization. The Mountain West ISA will be a nonprofit corporation and will file its transmission tariffs with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

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Update on the Northwest's fish and wildlife efforts

The National Marine Fisheries Service has hired Gary Sims, on loan from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to serve as a tribal liaison to develop a plan for the federal caucus to work with the region's tribes on fish and wildlife issues. Sims is expected to work on the project for about four months. The caucus includes National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation and BPA. The federal agencies will share funding for the tribal liaison position.

The federal caucus is developing three documents for public review in the fall:

1. A four-H paper addressing habitat, hydro, harvest and hatchery initiatives for recovering anadromous fish.
2. The Army Corps of Engineers expects to release a draft environmental impact statement by October 1999 addressing the impacts of breaching four lower Snake River dams and also looking at other alternatives.
3. The three federal agencies that operate the Federal Columbia River Power System, the Corps, Reclamation and BPA, are working to develop a draft biological assessment for the hydropower

system by October 1999.

All three drafts are expected to be released for public comment when they are completed.

The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are preparing a draft environmental impact statement on the Interior Columbia Basin Ecological Management Project that will be available for public comment during the same time period.

The nine federal agencies are coordinating closely with other regional fish and wildlife efforts such as the Columbia Basin Forum and the Northwest Power Planning Council's Multi-Species Framework. The Framework is expected to specify fish and wildlife goals, ecological objectives and strategies that are linked by a scientific foundation. Members of the federal caucus serve on the management committee of the Framework and are coordinating with the federal members of the forum to ensure strong linkage between processes. The habitat and hydro work groups of the federal caucus and the Framework have combined data bases and are working toward combined alternatives. The groups are also working to combine public processes in the fall.

BPA hopes all of these processes will lead to a unified plan for the hydropower system — with actions taken in habitat hatcheries and harvest — to provide effective measures that will lead to salmon recovery, that will contribute to tribal and other fisheries and that will provide long-term rate stability for BPA, its customers and Northwest ratepayers.

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BPA works with tribes

BPA works with tribes in its service area as outlined in its Tribal Policy. BPA and tribal issues include such areas as fish and wildlife, cultural issues and building a government-to-government relationship. BPA supports the new tribal liaison position at the National Marine Fisheries Service as part of BPA's ongoing commitment to work with tribes. You will find a [Keeping Current](#) enclosed with this month's *Journal* that gives you background on BPA's relationship with Northwest tribes.

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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Status Reports

Big Eddy-Ostrander Vegetation Management EA.

Ore. — To control vegetation on two segments of the 500- kV transmission line right-of-way. One segment is from Lolo Pass to near Parkdale. The other segment is east of Parkdale. An EA is being prepared. Call to be added to the mail list.

Fourmile Hill Geothermal Development Project EIS (Calpine)

No. Calif. — A geothermal power plant and new transmission line have been proposed on Forest Service land in the Klamath and Modoc forests. BLM has the lead. BPA is a cooperating agency. A final EIS and summary are available. Call to receive a copy.

IDFG Snake River Chinook Captive Rearing

Idaho — To fund Idaho Department of Fish and Game's captive rearing project for Endangered Species Act-listed Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon. The preliminary EA (#3195) will be available by Aug. 9. See Close of Comment. View the EA on the Web or call to receive a copy.

Johnson Creek Artificial Propagation Enhancement

Idaho — Development of a native chinook salmon broodstock for rearing of acclimated smolts to preserve and recover the population. An EA is being prepared. Call to be added to the mail list.

Northwest Regional Power Facility

Wash. — To construct a combustion turbine near Creston. The final EIS (#2887) and a supplement analysis are available. Call to receive a copy.

South Oregon Coast Reinforcement EIS.

Ore. — To reinforce electrical service to the southern Oregon coast and provide the necessary transmission for Nucor Corp. to build a new steel mill in the Coos Bay/North Bend area. The Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Corps of Engineers are cooperating agencies. A draft EIS is being prepared. Call to be added to the mail list.

Telephone Flats Geothermal Project EIS (CalEnergy)

No. Calif. — A geothermal power plant and new transmission line have been proposed on Forest Service land in the Modoc Forest. BLM has the lead and BPA is a cooperating agency. The final EIS (#0298) and summary are available. Call to receive a copy.

Vegetation Management Program EIS

Regionwide — To develop a vegetation management program while maintaining a safe and reliable transmission system. See Calendar of Events and Close of Comment. The draft EIS (#3193) will be available in early August. Call to receive a copy or see the EIS on the Web.

Yakima Fisheries Project.

Wash. — Under the Spring Chinook Research Program, BPA, Yakama Nation and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife are proposing the construction of a natural spawning channel and increased housing for hatchery staff at the Cle Elum Hatchery facility. A Supplement Analysis (DOE/EIS-0669-SA-2) is available. Call to receive a copy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Vegetation Management Program — Public meeting

Sept. 15, 2-6 p.m.
Portland State Office Building
Willamette River Room — 120C
800 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR

Communication is at Hand — Fiber Optics for Northwest Communities Conference

Sept. 21-23
Spokane Center
334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, Wash.
Contact [Melanie Jackson](#) at (360) 418-2303.

CLOSE OF COMMENT

Vegetation Management Program Draft EIS: Oct. 9, 1999

Snake River Chinook Captive rearing Preliminary EA: Aug. 23, 1999

Acronyms:

EA: Environmental Assessment

EIS: Environmental Impact Statement

FONSI: Finding of No Significant Impact

NOI: Notice of Intent

ROD: Record of Decision

An archive of past *Journals* is available to the public on BPA's external Web site at

<http://www.bpa.gov/Corporate/KC/home/journal/>.

We welcome all comments from you at Journal-AC, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, OR 97208-3621 or enballa@bpa.gov.

For More Information or To Get Involved:

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